

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Previously Presented) A method in a computer system for sharing system resource data between two or more applications running as separate processes, said method comprising:

obtaining resource data from a source of system resources and storing a single shared copy of the resource data to be utilized by each of the two or more applications, wherein the single shared copy is configured to allow sharing in order to avoid duplication of resources;

receiving one or more resource data requests from the applications;

processing the resource data requests by accessing and utilizing the single shared copy of the resource data; and

communicating the processed resource data to the respective applications.

2. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising creating an instance of a central server and establishing a separate communications interface in the server for each application.

3. (Original) The method as recited in claim 2, wherein the central server is a central font cache server.

4. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said obtaining step includes creating an instance of a central data store and storing the resource data in the central data store.

5. (Original) The method as recited in claim 4, wherein the central data store is a font cache store.

6. (Original) The method as recited in claim 4, wherein said processing step includes transferring the resource data requests from a central server to the data store.

7. (Original) The method as recited in claim 6, wherein said communicating step includes transferring at least a portion of the resource data from the data store to the respective applications.

8. (Original) The method as recited in claim 7, wherein said transferring at least a portion of the resource data includes utilizing a fast access array.

9. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising refreshing the resource data.

10. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 9, wherein said refreshing step includes:

~~creating a resource data update window;~~
receiving communications from the resource data source; and
obtaining a new shared copy of the resource data.

11. (Original) The method as recited in claim 10, wherein said step of receiving communications includes receiving an update resource data message from an operating system.

12. (Original) The method as recited in claim 11, wherein the update resource data message is an update graphics display interface/font resource data message.

13. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the resource data is graphics display interface font resource data.

14. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the applications are single document interface applications.

15. (Original) The method as recited in claim 14, wherein each instance of the single document interface applications is selected from a group consisting of a word processing application, a spreadsheet application and a database application.

16. (Original) The method as recited in claim 15, wherein the single document interface applications are created from a single software platform.

17. (Original) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps recited in claim 1.

18. (Previously Presented) A method for sharing graphics device interface (GDI)/font resource data between multiple instances of single document interface applications, said method comprising:

obtaining a single shared copy of the GDI/font resource data, the single shared copy being configured to allow sharing by the multiple instances of SDI applications;
receiving font data process requests from the SDI applications;
processing the font data requests using the shared copy of the GDI/font resource data; and
communicating the processed font data to the SDI applications.

19. (Original) The method as recited in claim 18 further comprising refreshing the shared copy of the GDI/font resource data.

20. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 19, wherein said refreshing step includes:

~~creating a font cache window;~~
receiving communications from a resource source; and
obtaining a new shared copy of the GDI/font resource data.

21. (Original) The method as recited in claim 20, wherein said step of receiving communications includes receiving an update GDI/font resource data message from an operating system.

22. (Original) The method as recited in claim 21, further comprising communicating to the SDI applications commands to acquire the new copy of the GDI/font resource data.

23. (Original) The method as recited in claim 18, wherein said obtaining step includes creating a central font cache store and storing the shared copy in the central font cache store.

24. (Original) The method as recited in claim 23, wherein said step of receiving font data process requests includes establishing a separate communications interface for each SDI application.

25. (Original) The method as recited in claim 24, wherein said processing step includes transferring the font data requests to a central font cache store having stored thereto the shared copy of the GDI/font resource data.

26. (Original) The method as recited in claim 25, wherein said communicating step includes transferring at least a portion of the GDI/font resource data from the central font cache store to the applications.

27. (Original) The method as recited in claim 26, wherein said step of transferring at least a portion of the GDI/font resource data includes utilizing a fast access array.

28. (Original) The method as recited in claim 27, wherein the GDI/font resource data includes a system handle to a system font and at least one attribute of the system font.

29. (Original) The method as recited in claim 28, wherein each instance of the SDI applications is selected from a group consisting of a word processing application, a spreadsheet application, and a database application.

30. (Original) The method as recited in claim 29, wherein the SDI applications are created from a single software platform.

31. (Original) A computer readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps recited in claim 30.

32. (Original) A computer system having a memory, an operating system and a central processor, said processor being operable to execute the steps recited in claim 30.

33. (Currently Amended) A cross-process resource sharing system disposed between an operating system and multiple client applications, said system comprising:

a central data store containing shared resource data obtained from the operating system, the shared resource data configured to be shared by multiple client applications;

a central data server for maintaining and managing the shared resource data and for establishing a communications link between said central data store and any of the multiple client applications, wherein said central data store is adapted to communicate at least a portion of the shared resource data to any of the multiple client applications over the communications link in response to resource data requests from any of the requesting multiple client applications; and

an update communications server connected to said central data server, said update communications server being further connected to a an operating system resource source to provide a communications link between said central data server and the operating system resource source in order to acquire and process resource data from the operating system resource source.

34. (Currently Amended) The system as recited in claim 33, wherein said shared system resource data are is graphics display interface/font resource data.

35. (Original) The system as recited in claim 34, wherein said central data server is a central font cache server.

36. (Original) The system as recited in claim 34, wherein said central data store is a font cache store.

37. (Original) The system as recited in claim 34, wherein said update communications server is a font cache update window.

38. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing steps comprising:

obtaining a single shared copy of resource data from a source of resource data, the single shared copy configured to allow ~~allowing~~ sharing of resource data by multiple client applications without creating multiple copies of the shared resource data;

receiving data process requests from ~~any of~~ multiple client applications;

processing the resource data requests by sharing the single shared copy of the resource data with ~~any one of~~ the multiple client applications making a request for resource data; and

communicating the processed resource data to the [respective applications] requesting ~~application~~ multiple client applications.

39. (Original) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 38, further comprising instructions for creating an instance of a central server and establishing a separate communications interface for each application.

40. (Original) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 39, wherein the central server is a central font cache server.

41. (Original) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 38, wherein said obtaining step includes creating an instance of a central data store and storing the resource data in the central data store.

42. (Original) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 41, wherein the central data store is a font cache store.

43. (Original) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 41, wherein said processing step includes transferring the data requests to the data store.

44. (Original) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 43, wherein said communicating step includes transferring at least a portion of the resource data from the data store to the applications.

45. (Original) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 44, wherein the resource data transfer utilizes a fast access array.

46. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 38 54, further comprising instructions for refreshing the resource data.

47. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 46, wherein said refreshing step includes:

~~creating a resource data update window;~~
receiving communications from a resource data source; and
obtaining a new copy of the resource data.

48. (Original) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 47, wherein said step of receiving communications from the source includes receiving an update resource data message from an operating system.

49. (Original) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 48, wherein the update resource data message is an update graphics display interface/font resource data message.

50. (Original) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 38, wherein the resource data is graphics display interface font resource data.

51. (Original) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 38, wherein the applications are single document interface applications.

52. (Original) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 51, wherein each instance of the single document interface applications is selected from a group consisting of a word processing application, a spreadsheet application and a database application.

53. (Original) The computer-readable medium as recited in claim 52, wherein the single document interface applications are created from a single software platform.

54. (Original) A computer system having a memory, an operating system and a central processor, said processor being operable to execute the instructions stored on the computer-readable medium of claim 38.

55. (New) A method in a computer system for sharing system resource data between multiple applications originating from a common base program and running as separate processes, the method comprising:

implementing a cross-process server between an operating system and the multiple applications originating from the common base program and running as separate processes to obtain operating system resource data from the operating system;

storing a shared copy of the obtained operating system resource data in a resource store on the cross-process server; and

processing resource data requests from the multiple applications by accessing and utilizing the shared copy of the operating system resource data; and

sharing the copy of the obtained operating system resource data in the resource store with the multiple applications.
